

Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (original) A garment, comprising: an outer layer; a harness assembly secured to an interior of said outer layer, said harness assembly comprising a harness body and a support line, said support line being received and stored within said harness body, said support line having a first end which is accessible from an exterior of said outer layer, said first end being withdrawn from said harness body by pulling said first end relatively away from said garment outer layer.

2. (original) A garment according to claim 1, wherein said support line has a second end, said second end being accessible from the exterior of said outer layer and being releasably secured to said harness body.

3. (original) A garment according to claim 1, further comprising an inner liner removably secured to an interior of said outer layer, said harness body being disposed between said inner liner and said outer layer.

4. (original) A garment according to claim 1, wherein said outer layer has an opening through which said support line first end extends.

5. (original) A garment according to claim 4, wherein said opening is normally covered by a flap, said flap being

secured to said outer layer.

6. (original) A garment according to claim 4, wherein said support line has a second end, said second end extending through said outer layer opening and being fixed relative to said harness body.

7. (original) A garment according to claim 6, further comprising an inner liner removably secured to an interior of said outer layer, said harness body being disposed between said outer layer and said inner liner.

8. (original) A garment according to claim 7, wherein said opening is normally covered by a flap, said flap being secured to said outer layer.

9. (original) A garment according to claim 1, wherein said harness assembly includes a fastener for releasably securing a first end of said harness body to a second end of said harness body.

10. (original) A garment according to claim 9, wherein said support line has a second end, said second end being accessible from the exterior of said outer layer and being releasably secured to said harness body.

11. (original) A garment according to claim 10, wherein said outer layer has an opening through which said support line first and second ends extend.

12. (original) A garment according to claim 11, wherein said opening is normally covered by a flap, said

flap being secured to said outer layer.

13. (original) A garment according to claim 1, wherein said harness assembly include a support line module, said module being secured to said harness body and receives said support line.

14. (original) A garment according to claim 13, wherein said harness body defines a chamber and said module is slidably received within said chamber.

15. (original) A harness assembly, comprising: a harness body portion having a first end and a second end; a fastener for releasably securing the first end to the second end to releasably secure said harness body portion around a wearer; a support line received by said harness body portion, said support line having a first end and a second end which extend from said harness body portion, said support line being removed from said harness body portion by pulling said support line first end away from said harness body portion, said support line second end being releasably secured to said harness body portion.

16. (original) A harness assembly according to claim 15, wherein said support line first end and said support line second end each have a coupler secured thereto.

17. (original) A harness assembly according to claim 16, wherein said coupler is a carabiner.

18. (original) A harness assembly according to claim 15, wherein said support line is disposed in said harness

body portion in a serpentine fashion so that a length of said support line is much greater than a length of said harness body portion.

19. (original) A harness assembly according to claim 15, wherein said support line is made from a heat and fire resistant material.

20. (original) A harness assembly according to claim 15, wherein said harness assembly is adapted to be secured to an interior of an article of clothing.

21. (original) A harness assembly according to claim 15, further comprising a support line module, said module being secured to said harness body portion and receiving said support line.

22. (original) A harness assembly according to claim 21, wherein said harness body defines a chamber and said module is slidably received within said chamber.

23. (original) A method for using a garment to escape from a building, said garment including an outer layer and a harness assembly, said harness assembly comprising a harness body and a support line, said harness body being secured to an interior of said outer layer and receiving said support line, a first end of said support line being accessible on an exterior of said outer layer, comprising the steps of: accessing said first end of said support line; withdrawing a length of said support line from said harness body by pulling said first end of said support line relatively away from said harness body; securing said

support line first end in a fixed position relative to said building; holding said support line and controllably withdrawing support line from said harness body to lower oneself down a side of said building.

24. (original) A method for using a garment to escape from a building according to claim 23, wherein said garment also includes a flap which is normally closed to conceal said support line first end, and wherein said accessing step includes the step of opening said flap to reveal said first end of said support line.

25. (original) A method for using a garment to escape from a building according to claim 24, wherein a second end of said support line is releasably secured to the harness body and is accessible on the exterior of said outer layer, comprising the further step of releasing said second end from said harness to disconnect said support line from said garment.

26. (currently amended) A harness assembly,
comprising:

- a harness body portion having a first end and a second end;

- a fastener for releasably securing the first end to the second end to releasably secure said harness body portion around a wearer;

- a support line module containing a support line,
wherein said harness body is integrated with said support line module via an accommodating chamber in either of said harness body or of said support

line module such that said support line module and said harness body portion [being] are releasably secured to one another, wherein said support line has a first end and a second end which extend from said support line module, said support line being removed from said support line module by pulling said support line first end away from said support line module, said support line second end being releasably secured to said harness body portion.

27. (original) A harness assembly according to claim 26, wherein said support line module defines a plurality of elongated chambers, a portion of said support line being received in each of said chambers.

28. (original) A harness assembly according to claim 27, wherein each of said elongated chambers receives at least two loops of said support line therein.

29. (currently amended) A harness assembly according to claim 26, wherein said support line module defines [a] the chamber as a harness chamber and said harness body portion is received within said chamber, wherein said support line is long relative to a length of said support line module.

30. (currently amended) A harness assembly according to claim 28, wherein said support line module defines [a] the chamber as a harness chamber and said harness body portion is received within said chamber, wherein said support line is long relative to a length of said support

line module.

31. (new) The harness assembly of claim 29, wherein said support line module has a shape and volume relative to said support line in said module.

32. (new) A harness assembly, comprising:

a harness body portion having a first end and a second end;

a fastener for releasably securing the first end to the second end to releasably secure said harness body portion around a wearer;

a support line module including a chamber provided along a length of said module and containing a support line, said support line module and said harness body portion being releasably secured to one another by said harness body portion cooperating with said chamber, wherein said support line has a first end and a second end which extend from said support line module, said support line being removed from said support line module by pulling said support line first end away from said support line module, said support line second end being releasably secured to said harness body portion.

33. (new) The harness assembly of claim 32, wherein said harness body portion includes a portion adapted such that said cooperating includes said portion being inserted in said chamber for releasably securing said support line module to said harness body portion.

34. (new) The harness assembly of claim 33, wherein said support line module defines a plurality of chambers, and wherein a substantial portion of said support line is provided within said chambers.

35. (new) The harness assembly of claim 32, wherein said support line module defines a plurality of chambers, and wherein a substantial portion of said support line is provided within said chambers.

36. (new) A harness assembly, comprising:

a harness body portion having a first end and a second end and including a chamber;

a fastener for releasably securing the first end to the second end to releasably secure said harness body portion around a wearer;

a support line module containing a support line, said support line module and said harness body portion being releasably secured to one another by said module cooperating with said chamber, wherein said support line has a first end and a second end which extend from said support line module, said support line being removed from said support line module by pulling said support line first end away from said support line module, said support line second end being releasably secured to said harness body portion.

37. (new) The harness assembly of claim 36, wherein said cooperating includes said support line module being inserted in said chamber for releasably securing said

support line module to said harness body portion.

38. (new) The harness assembly of claim 37, wherein said support line module defines a plurality of chambers, and wherein a substantial portion of said support line is provided within said chambers.

39. (new) The harness assembly of claim 36, wherein said support line module defines a plurality of chambers, and wherein a substantial portion of said support line is provided within said chambers.

40. (new) A harness assembly, comprising:

- a harness body portion having belt portion including a first end and a second end;

- a fastener for releasably securing the first end to the second end to releasably secure said harness body portion around a wearer;

- a support line module including a chamber along a length of said module and containing a support line, said support line module and said harness body portion being releasably secured to one another by said belt being inserted within said chamber, wherein said support line has a first end and a second end which extend from said support line module, said support line being removed from said support line module by pulling said support line first end away from said support line module, said support line second end being releasably secured to said harness body portion.

41. (new) The harness assembly of claim 40, wherein said support line module defines a plurality of chambers, and wherein a substantial portion of said support line is snaked within said chambers.

41. (new) A harness assembly, comprising:

a harness body portion having at least one shoulder first end and a second end;

a fastener for releasably securing the first end to the second end to releasably secure said harness body portion around a wearer;

a support line module including a chamber provided along a length of said module and containing a support line, said support line module and said harness body portion being releasably secured to one another by said harness body portion cooperating with said chamber, wherein said support line has a first end and a second end which extend from said support line module, said support line being removed from said support line module by pulling said support line first end away from said support line module, said support line second end being releasably secured to said harness body portion.

42. (new) A harness assembly, comprising:

a harness body portion having a first end and a second end;

a fastener for releasably securing the first end to the second end to releasably secure said harness body portion around a wearer;

at least one shoulder strap having a first end connected to said harness body portion and a second end connected to said harness body portion;

a support line module containing a support line, said support line module and said harness body portion being releasably secured to one another, wherein said support line has a first end and a second end which extend from said support line module, said support line being removed from said support line module by pulling said support line first end away from said support line module, said support line second end being releasably secured to said harness body portion.

43. (new) The harness assembly of claim 42, wherein said harness body portion is releasably secured to said support line module via a chamber.

44. (new) The harness assembly of claim 43, wherein said harness body portion is comprised of said chamber, and wherein at least a portion of said support line module is inserted into said chamber.

45. (new) The harness assembly of claim 43, wherein said support line module is comprised of said chamber, and wherein at least a portion of said harness body portion is inserted into said chamber.

46. (new) A harness assembly, comprising:

- a harness body portion having belt portion including a first end and a second end;
- a fastener for releasably securing the first end to the second end to releasably secure said harness body portion around a wearer;
- a support line module including a chamber provided along a length of said module and containing a support line, said support line module and said harness body portion being releasably secured to one another by said belt being inserted within said chamber, wherein

said support line module cooperates with said said harness body portion such that said support line module conforms with said belt around a substantial portion of the waist of a wearer;

said support line has a first end and a second end which extend from said support line module, said support line having a length that is substantially longer than said harness body portion, said support line being removed from said support line module by pulling said support line first end away from said support line module, said support line second end being releasably secured to said harness body portion.